



News Letter

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

As the year 2005 draws to a close, a lot has happened, not only to the squadron, but the world in general.

We have seen, natural disasters strike all over the world as well as this great nation of ours; hurricanes to the south of us, flooding to east of the state and in our own state, and wild fires on the west coast.

With each disaster we see not only the good in people, but the bad as well. I sometimes wonder, exactly how I would respond in the same situation, would I be there for my fellow citizens, or simply turn my back on them looking out for myself. Would I be the one to take advantage of the situation, "Survival of the Fittest", or would I reach out and offer a helping hand to those less fortunate than myself.

I can't exactly remember where this quote comes from, but I find myself thinking about it as I look at the disasters befalling others in the world "There but by the grace of God go I". I realize how lucky I've been, that my family and friends haven't been subjected to all the disasters that are befalling the world, and how there is a divine being looking out over each one of us.

We should remember to reach out to those less fortunate than ourselves, to offer assistance when we can, to not turn our back on our fellow man, for one day they may turn their back on us.

As for the squadron, the biggest change was moving into the new location. I want to take a moment and thank LTC. William Bowden in taking the time and initiative to locate such a great meeting place for us. While there are no new faces in the unit, there is a strong number of members that attend each meeting and participate in the other activities of the squadron.

To those members, I may not say it often enough, but THANK YOU; thank you to each one of you, because you it makes it easier to plan and execute the meetings because of you and your interest in the squadron, and your interest

in your fellow members. It makes attending the meetings such a pleasure.



(Captain Bart McPeak)

For those of you that read the meeting minutes from the last meeting, you all know that Captain McPeak has been called up to active duty and will be heading to Afghanistan. He left for Ft. Sill on the 6th of October for training prior to being deployed overseas. He said that he would be at Fort Sill for about four months. He also said that 16 of his unit CH47 chinooks will be deployed.

There have been modifications to the engines and other systems. In addition, there is a system to detect an incoming missile where metal fragments would be dispersed to eliminate any damage to the helicopter.

Captain McPeak has a new email address: barton.mcpeak@us.army.mil. I'd like each of you to take the time to drop him a line, even if it's just saying hello, so he knows we're thinking about him.

The answers may be awhile in coming, but I'm sure he'll appreciate the thought none the less, and Bart, let me say *Insuequo nos opportunus iterum, exsisto tutus*, Until we meet again, be safe.

FINANCE OFFICER'S COMMENTS

When we moved out of our old headquarters, we had to place several office items in storage. Of course, there was a monthly fee associated with the storage. After a couple of months, Captain Deucher, Major Butter and LTC Summerskill, removed all of the items and returned them to Kansas Wing Headquarters. Therefore, we no longer have that fee to pay each month.

Once we moved into our new headquarters, we no longer have to pay a monthly fee for our meeting space. This cuts down on our operating expenses and allows the squadron to use the funds available for things that benefit the squadron members and the program as a whole.

We have LTC Bowden to thank for our new space. It is a super place to meet. We can store one file cabinet with our records in it and have all of our books there, such as, Regulations, Manuals and Pamphlets.

The Finance Committee is going to be meeting after the October 18th meeting to determine the CY2006 squadron dues, we believe that a reduction in the annual dues may be order.

The Finance officer will be drafting a letter to send to the Wing Commander to approve the collection of the Unit Dues.

For FY2006, the annual dues paid to National Headquarters for renewal by a senior member in the Kansas Wing will remain the same as last year.

PERSONNEL OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Each member should go out the the National Headquarter website and make sure their contact information is correct. This should include EMAIL addresses if you have one listed with National Headquarters. The URL to this information is <http://www.capnhq.gov>

SAFETY OFFICER'S COMMENTS*Ceiling and Visibility*

The AOPA has made a new online course available for pilots, it's called "Weather Wise: Ceiling and Visibility". The course can be found on the AOPA website or by using the link listed below to go directly to the course. It doesn't appear that you have to be a member of the AOPA to take the course. It would be good for all aircrew members to take the course to get a better understanding of the impact that ceiling and visibility can have on flight operations.

Website is: http://aopa.org/asf/wxwise_ceilingvis

Operational Risk Management

ORM training is available online through the ORM University that can be found at <http://creports.capnhq.gov/ormu/> There are multiple courses available on the site, at this time the Wing Safety Officer and the Wing Commander have requested that all field grade officers take at least the introduction course. I recommend that every member of the squadron consider taking the course. Remember to print out your certificate upon completion of the course and bring them to the squadron meeting. We need to put a copy in your file and send a copy to wing for their records.

Here's a hint, there is a "challenge" (25 questions) at the end of the course, when you get ready to take the challenge, select the CD option and not the internet option.

Emergency Services Officer's Comments

Lt. Jim Barker has offered to take over ES for the squadron. Captain Mc Peak was the ES officer but has been deployed overseas. Please work with Lt. Barker while he gets up to speed on his new role in the squadron. Lt. Barker has offered to remain as the Squadron Aerospace Officer as well. Many thanks to Lt. Barker for stepping into this new role.

Members Reaching out to Others

This is a new section of the newsletter that will be provided from time to time. It's to let the members know what other members are doing for the community, this activity may be associated with a CAP activity, or it may not.

If there is nothing to report in this area, then we'll replace it with a meet the member profile.

I am looking forward to contributions to the newsletter by the membership.

Here is our first entry in this area.

One of our members, LTC Summerskill, donated 80 hours of his time to paint the interior of a house. The proceeds from the sale of this house are to be donated to the Olathe Police Foundation. The estimated amount will be approximately \$20-25K.

Char MacCallum of Char MacCallum Real Estate Group, purchased the home that was in foreclosure. She got several donations from the Olathe community. Kwal paint donated several gallons of paint. Other members of the community donated items. Serendipity furnished the house with accent items that are for sale.

October 6, 2005, the house was held open for members of

the community. It was a catered affair. Several treats and refreshments were available for all. Larry Campbell, Kansas State Representative; Janet Thiessen, the Olathe police chief; and several high ranking Olathe policemen were attendance. Website for more information: www.char4homes.com.

I was told by the Olathe police chief that there is a need for 48 more officers. Maybe this is time for a career change. Website for more information: www.olatheks.org.



(L-R Olathe Police Chief Thiessen, Major Sullivan, Char MacCallum)



Calendar of Upcoming EventsOCTOBER 2005

4TH Safety meeting and guest speaker
18TH Aerospace and FAA DVD presentation
30Th Daylight Savings Time Ends (turn clocks
back 1 hr.)

NOVEMBER 2005

1st Safety meeting and flight simulator training
5th Commanders Call
11th Veteran's day
12th-13th Scanner/Observer Training @ Salina
15th Aerospace and Randy Jackson (LO staff)
19th - 20th SLS @ Salina

DECEMBER 2005

3rd Commanders Call & FRO Training
6th Safety meeting and communication presentation
10th-11th CLC @ Salina
12th SUI - TBD
16th-18th Mini SAREX @ Salina
20th Annual Christmas Party
25th Christmas Day
26th-31st Cadet Encampment @ Salina

Shawnee Mission Composite Squadron

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